

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A process to produce a composition containing 5'-ribonucleotides which comprises:

(i) treating microbial cells enzymatically to release the cell contents comprising RNA[[],];

~~(ii) separating solid material originating from the microbial cells from soluble material present in the released cell content;~~

~~(ii)[(iii)] separating the RNA and the cell walls resulting from step (i) present in the released cell contents from other soluble cell material smaller than 50 kDa; wherein the other soluble cell material comprises peptides and small proteins; and~~

~~(iii)[(iv)] converting the separated RNA into 5'-ribonucleotides in the presence of the cell walls and in the absence of soluble cell material smaller than 50 kDa; and~~

~~(iv) separating the cell walls from the 5'-ribonucleotides so that a composition containing at least 55% (based on the NaCl-free, dry matter weight) of 5' ribonucleotides is produced.~~

~~whereby the process is used to produce a composition containing 5' ribonucleotides.~~

7. (original) A process according to claim 6, wherein the native enzymes of the microbial cells are inactivated prior to treating the microbial cells to release the cell contents.

Claims 8 - 10 (cancelled).

11. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6 [[10]], wherein, in step (iv), the ~~solid material is~~ cell walls are removed by centrifugation ~~or filtration~~.

12. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the separation of the RNA from the ~~other~~ soluble cell material smaller than 50 kDa is carried out by ultrafiltration with a filter and the RNA and the cell walls are [[is]] recovered in the filter's retentate.

13. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein, in step (iii), the ~~separated~~ RNA is enzymatically converted into 5'-ribonucleotides.

14. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein, after step (iv), the 5'-ribonucleotides are further purified by the removal of compounds having a higher molecular weight than the 5'-ribonucleotides.

15. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 14, wherein the removal of compounds having a higher molecular weight than the 5'-ribonucleotides is carried out by ultrafiltration.

Claims 16 - 20 (canceled)

21. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises at least 65% w/w (based on the NaCl free, dry matter weight) of 5'-ribonucleotides.
22. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises at least 75% w/w (based on the NaCl free, dry matter weight) of 5'-ribonucleotides.
23. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises 0.01 to 10% w/w (based on the NaCl dry matter weight) of glutamate.
24. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the composition comprises more 5'-GMP than the sum of 5'-IMP and 5'-AMP.
25. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein, in step (i), the cells are treated with a protease.
26. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 13 [[6]], wherein the ~~separated~~ RNA is enzymatically converted into 5'-ribonucleotides by 5'-phosphodiesterase.
27. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 13 [[6]], wherein the ~~separated~~ RNA is enzymatically converted into 5'-ribonucleotides by 5'-phosphodiesterase and deaminase.
28. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the microbial cells are yeast.

29. (currently amended) The [[A]] process according to claim 6, wherein the microbial cells are *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

30. (cancelled).